

What is claimed is:

1. A torque computation unit of a vehicle generator that includes a rotor, an armature winding, a field coil and a field current switching
5 element, the torque computation unit comprising:

field current detecting means for detecting a field current value relating to current supplied to the field coil;

output current detecting means for detecting an output current value relating to output current of the armature winding; and

10 rotation speed detecting means for detecting a rotation speed of the rotor;

wherein torque calculation means for calculating driving torque of the generator from the field current value, the output current value and the rotation speed.

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2. The torque computation unit according to claim 1,

wherein said field current detecting means calculates the field current value from voltage applied to the field coil and an on-off ratio of the field current switching element.

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3. The torque computation unit according to claim 1,

wherein said field current switching element is a MOSFET that has a function of detecting current flowingtherethrough.

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4. The torque computation unit according to claim 1, further comprising a solenoid disposed around an end of the armature winding,

wherein said output current detecting means calculates the output

current value from voltage applied to the solenoid.

5 5. The torque computation unit according to claim 1, further comprising a C-shaped magnetic core having a slit and a magnetic sensor inserted in the slit, wherein said output current detecting means calculates the output current value from an output signal of said magnetic sensor.

10 6. The torque computation unit according to claim 1, wherein said rotation speed detecting means calculates the rotation speed from the basic frequency of voltage induced in said armature winding.

15 7. The torque computation unit according to claim 1, further comprising a memory which stores data of moment of inertia of the rotor and means for calculating an acceleration velocity of the rotation speed from voltage induced in the armature winding,

20 wherein said torque calculation means calculates inertial torque of the generator from the acceleration velocity and the moment of inertia of the rotor.

25 8. The torque computation unit according to claim 1, wherein said field current detecting means further comprises means for detecting temperature of the field coil, and

 wherein said field current detecting means calculates the field current value from voltage applied to the field coil, an on-off ratio of the field current switching element and the temperature of the field coil.